

To the Honorable Commissioners of the FCC,

I am writing to you today to comment on Docket No. 02-277. I am voicing my support to retain all the FCC rules in question.

Diversity in media, especially mainstream media, is essential for an informed society and an informed electorate. Everyone, for the sake of their own well being and that of their children and families, must know as much as possible about their world in order to be able to avoid harms and to choose beneficial directions. Often, unfortunately, vital information is denied to mainstream media audiences for the sake of some economic interests of those who maintain control of so much of the media.

Therefore, to concentrate control even more, by removing or relaxing current rules, cannot serve the public interest....the very interest that the FCC is created to serve. People need expanded forums for more diversity, not less.

Concentration of medial control appears to be desired by private interests who imagine that they might be so well-informed that they can manipulate distribution of information and commentary in a way that can serve their own interests without causing harms. This is a vain hope...along the lines of inventing a Perpetual Motion device. It implies the impossible...possession of knowledge of the future and of the infinite interactions of society, science and nature itself.

This is unbalanced on its face...a prescription for disaster. It would, in effect, attempt to control diversity...to remove the negative economic effects of all the inevitable unknowns of the future and the present. It hopes to put a growing, living population into a bottle or a cage to be fed, literally and figuratively, only what serves the corporate interests.

This imbalance suggests that such limitations are not only unjust (denying anyone information that is vital to life itself) but insane (lacking mental balance). Indeed, limiting public information about many things can and does harm even those who support limiting information. This is most clear in areas involving quality of air, water, food and industrial chemicals...things that even the most isolated, seemingly-protected corporate media officials, and their families and children, cannot avoid. It is not an element of sanity to risk the health and lives of oneself and one's kin, not to mention the well-being of anyone.

Thank you.

John Jonik Jan. 1, 2003